Rock Hall Alnwick Northumberland
Friday Aug 2nd 1935

Dearest Joan what is this scandal this red-haired Tom I deny it & challenge them I say I challenge them. which not. I say I deny it. I am in bed it is 11.35: pm. I am sorry I meant to write. Sorry to thank you for your letter & dear René too. It is quite parties here at nights. It Cromille that's August already & the summer gone & nothing done. Hey we shall be in 1936 in a minute you see if we aint. Extra rapid. I have just come to bed — I have just read René's poems to Helen.S. — She was impressed — but I am cant explain anything — how can I. Says well, ma, I like you like this poem by your old pall Hägglund he is an international genius alright. Says it is wonderfull I do think it is wonderfull. I think wonderfull what a word. Says yes it is a very good poem ma it is authentic alright. Says ah. yes.

August Bank Holiday

It is a puffer going to see Cuz sitwell & her

1st in History & Anglo Saxon & sitwell got a 2nd in Hist.

Tommy's brother Teddy has just got a 1st in Hist. & is going to do a Double mark. (Anne sitwell got a 2nd in History with honours. This will make

Beaston

Mrs & Mrs Hands & family

daughter Anne in this Palace at Barmoor! I have not been so well cared. And it is depressing when you slink back again. Helen Ede comes for two days to-morrow & Prudence comes for a week on Friday. I wonder if you'd like to come to her. She went to London & was feeling miserable & not well. But the days she is better again & is I think back in Sussex — she is very bride maid at a wedding of her cousin I think this week. I think she might like to come up there — But I do hope she won't hate it. & spoil the atmosphere which is most different. There is no beer or rollicking but I do hope it will be alright. & not depress her more. or anything. Dear Jane dear Nancy I do wish I could see you. & wonder how you both are & Michael & Richard & Dr Ian call him Richard Dick or Tom Tommy. This house is very high in a rolling land with wheat & oat & barley fields shimmering like a quiet sea. & beach cattle & now the estuary of a small river & grey thing to see. It is very to be sitting on my own for the day. So is quite instead of cars & its rather nice not so much — miles this & now miles that & do be careful not to run down that bunny-rabbit & remember you must call at Mrs Things & don't forget to take the other road & not to be later than 5.31. or 32 & be very, earliest.

Aug 7th

Monday.

It was nice at the Sitwells yesterday. Helen Ede came this morning as arranged & I went to meet her. One of her first questions was 'How are René & Joan'. We had Tankerville's end of Chillingham this week & Sweden with Cary to supper last night. He [illegible] me subject — Social Credit — he talked for three hours about it — it was his fault for asking his question I was tired at before he started & I was dead when he had — it's Douglas scheme he cracks on about like anything. A sort of panacea for all ills. I wished René had been here to say the right things — I just can't like with this finance business he says the so simple I'm just make Our members of parliament force the government to force the Bankers to adjust their keeping system so that everyone has enough bits of leather to get all the things they want: freely. So easy — go on — do it — give it us. — they won't: they implacably resent. We like this money we will keep it for ourselves. I wonder if it

would be any good going Helen. This book called
Money & Morals — do you think it would?
It's about all this — it is, is it't it.
Who published it?. He is super interested
in all these so called problems. I do
find it a strain trying to think of so many
things at once. I would like a going
& a good jolted messy — humans natcherly.
I has a catalogue of the Welsh Paintings
exhibits — they have reproduced my
drawing & Tommy Hodgkin. — So glad
Jane has seen him. How does he sound
depressed or ailing? I just had a
nice letter & Nicolette & a cheque
for £16.16 — she has sold a picture
of cattle I did & Pigotts & a Welsh
school masts for near Swansea — he
came & saw it — she said he was nice
& Welsh, very silent, with a square face.
and it is with reluctance that I send his
cheque to the bank, because it has
an it Barclays Bank — Gorseinon Branch.
The nicest kind of Welsh place-name.
nicer than Barclays Bank Cott & Park Branch
I must say.. I must stop for a bit
because Helen Ede is waiting for me to
go on a sleigh walk with her.
She has come for Edinburg. Just had a
nice letter from Cat Dawson all his family
gone for skiing — poor kit.

Just come & had tea. Helen Ede is well & looks better than I've seen her look for a long while & the child Jim is better.

We've been sitting by a pond, in a copse, a preserve of game, a charming place where the trees seem to lean with live things — mysterious croakings go under the dark bushes. & there are fowl kept in this copse in hutches, set on platforms among the trees & a keeper with a gun & with things of his trade hanged about him. He moves about & hangs on a line small dead rodent animals that come for his young partridges — he showed me a lovely Sparrow-hawk he shot the other day. with great shackles wings spread & curved sharp talons & his golden eye fixed still in his poor death-head. with hanging legs with tassens of shotted tawny feathers — I've known did not half make me think of the shocked Kites that fed on the dead in Saxon battles.

Waiting study
"the sparrow-hawk"
by Reginald
Savage

Later

Just had letter from Prudence say she
coming on Saturday. She does not seem
awfully well & still gets sick a lot
It is a shame.. She said she
had talked with you on the telephone &
that Rene is going to paint Johns. C.'s
thing for his maps. Also that Rene
was going to London to get new glasses —
old age is bad for sight & hearing
Have you heard from Tom at all - I have
not heard for some time I must write again.
Do you know if Eric received a thing
I returned to him with letter some while
back? Did he like Fr O'Connors
new octagonal church.? What is it
like at Pigotts now.? There has been
the great Exodus of course. I shd
think the Cabul bricklayers in gleaming
lime wash must look grand —
It's traditional in Wales to whitewash
all the buildings so that's good:
It's warmer here to-day than it's
been at all - in fact it has not been
awfully warm - inch I must stop.
Give my love to Peter & Eric Mary &
everybody. Hope Gordon is
happy with his new gentle girl friend
Has René seen Hanna yet?

Yes - he saw her for the winter.
well - one survives somehow — I can't
imagine what I should be doing this winter

I've written to Jane
What- not to do
a letter - or the
certainly least minds in London